

A D V E N T

THIRD SUNDAY



Bible Reading

First Reading - Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalm - Psalm 126

Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel - John 1:6-8, 19-28

Prayer

*God of joy and happiness,
you strengthen what is weak;
you enrich the poor*

and give hope to those who live in fear.

Look upon our needs this day.

Make us grateful for the good news of salvation

and keep us faithful in your service

until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ,

who lives for ever and ever.

Amen.

SPEAKING LIGHT

OVERVIEW:

For a period of around four hundred years, Israel found itself in a season of spiritual silence and darkness, but at God's perfectly chosen time, a baby came into the world that would shed light into the darkness. The awaited Messiah came and lived as the perfect light, illuminating all that sin had stained and providing a path of hope for all people. As this Christ would be the living light, those who followed him would be living lights as well.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sermon Questions (*choose 2-3 questions; ask follow-up questions to responses given*):

- How did Sunday's teaching impact you personally?
- What thoughts concerning the teaching were going through your mind at the time?
- How might the message from this past week impact your circles of influence (e.g., home, work, community, church?)
- How could living out the teaching from Sunday differ from how you've currently lived?
- What might you need to rearrange in your life to apply the sermon?
- Why might applying the principles from Sunday be challenging for you?
- What questions do you have concerning the teaching?
- How might this Old Testament passage reveal Jesus Christ or a need for Christ?
- How could what you learned on Sunday help you disciple someone else?

Scripture Reading Questions (see other side for scriptures)

- What comfort do you find in God, as He is described in the Psalms 40 and 85 passages?
- In light of the Apostle Peter's remarks in 2 Peter, how are we to live as Christians? Does your life currently compare to the characteristics of the faithful found in this passage?
- Like John the Baptist, how can we prepare the way for the Lord's return for those in our circles of influence?

Take-Away Questions:

- What's your take-away from the Sunday teaching and readings?

If you want some coaching on facilitating your group or need help with a specific situation related to your group, email us at hello@northsummit.com and a Group Coach will get in touch with you.